

**State Hazard Mitigation Plan Team (SHMT)
Agency Questionnaire**

Return by e-mail to Julie.malm@oes.ca.gov before December 15, 2006 (use additional pages as necessary). The current SHMP can be viewed at the OES Website at: www.oes.ca.gov under the "Plans and Publications" icon. If you need additional assistance, please feel free to call Julie at (916) 845-8160.

1. Agency **Delta Protection Commission**
2. Address **14215 River Road / P.O. Box 530, Walnut Grove, CA 95690**
3. Contact person (s) **Linda Fiack, Executive Director**
4. Contact information **(916) 776-2292; lindadpc@citlink.net**
5. Agency functions (brief description) **The Delta Protection Commission is tasked with implementation of the Land Use and Resource Management Plan for the Primary Zone of the Delta (Management Plan), including environment, utilities & infrastructure, land use, agriculture, water, recreation & access, levees, and marine patrol/boater education/safety programs in the Delta region.**

The Commission also facilitated a Delta Emergency Response Summit for elected officials in the Delta; this summit was held on June 26, 2006 in Isleton. Since that time, the Commission has proceeded with drafting a statement of Emergency Preparedness Compelling Need and a Letter of Intent for local officials to participate in joint efforts of Delta-wide benefit relative to emergency preparedness and response (November 2006).
6. Hazard mitigation, vulnerability, risk reduction responsibilities (direct or indirect) **The Commission's Management Plan contains the following policies and recommendations relative to the Primary Zone of the Delta:**
 - **Environment (Policy 2): Agricultural and land management practices shall minimize subsidence of peat soils. Local governments shall support studies of agricultural methods that minimize subsidence and shall assist in educating landowners and managers as to the value of utilizing these methods.**
 - **Utilities and Infrastructure (Policy 3): New sewage treatment facilities (including storage ponds) and new areas for disposal of sewage effluent and sewage sludge shall not be located within the Delta Primary Zone. The Rio Vista Project, as described in the adopted Final EIR for such project, and the Ironhouse Sanitary District use of Jersey Island for disposal of treated wastewater and biosolids are exempt from this policy.**
 - **Land Use (Policy 3): New residential, recreational, commercial, or industrial development shall ensure that appropriate buffer areas are provided by those proposing new development to prevent conflicts between any proposed use and existing agricultural use. Buffers shall adequately protect integrity of**

land for existing and future agricultural uses. Buffers may include berms and vegetation, as well as setbacks of 500 to 1,000 feet.

- **Land Use (Policy 6):** Subsidence control shall be a key factor in evaluating land use proposals.
- **Land Use (Policy 7):** Structures shall be set back from levees and areas which may be needed for future levee expansion.
- **Land Use (Recommendation 4):** Because of the need to continually dredge the channels serving the two ports, it is essential to maintain spoil sites and not allow existing spoil sites to be converted to industrial or other uses which preclude or limit their use as spoil sites.
- **Land Use (Recommendation 5):** To the extent possible, any development in the Secondary Zone should include an appropriate buffer zone to prevent impacts of such development on the lands in the Primary Zone. Local governments should consider needs of agriculture in determining such a buffer.
- **Levees (Policy 1):** Local governments shall ensure that Delta levees are maintained to protect human life, to provide flood protection, to protect private and public property, to protect historic structures and communities, to protect riparian and upland habitat, to promote interstate and intrastate commerce, to protect water quality in the State and federal water projects, and to protect recreational use of the Delta area. Delta levee maintenance and rehabilitation shall be given priority over other uses of the levee areas. To the extent levee integrity is not jeopardized, other uses, including support of vegetation for wildlife habitat, shall be allowed.
- **Levees (Policy 2):** If levee guidelines are needed, local governments shall adhere to guidelines for federal and local levee maintenance and construction at a minimum as stipulated in the Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan guidelines developed by California Office of Emergency Services and the Federal Emergency Management Agency in the 1987 agreement, and set longer term goals of meeting Public Law 84-99 (Emergency Rehabilitation of Flood Control Works or Federally Authorized Coastal Protection Works), standards administered by the Corps of Engineers. If vegetation standards are needed, local governments shall adopt the adopted vegetation guidelines, which promote native grasses and limited vegetation on specific areas of the levee.
- **Levees (Policy 3):** Through flood ordinances based on Flood Emergency Management Act model ordinances, developed by the International Conference of Building Officials and included in the Uniform Building Code, local governments shall carefully and prudently carry out their responsibilities to regulate new construction within flood hazard areas to protect public health, safety, and welfare. Increased flood protection shall not result in densities beyond those allowed under zoning and general plan designations in place on January 1, 1992, for lands in the Primary Zone.
- **Levees (Policy 4):** Local governments shall ensure that existing programs for emergency levee repair should be strengthened and better coordinated between local, State, and federal governments and shall include: interagency agreements and coordination; definition of an emergency; designation of emergency funds; emergency contracting procedures; emergency permitting procedures; and other necessary elements.
- **Levees (Policy 5):** Local governments shall use their authority to control levee encroachments that are detrimental to levee maintenance.
- **Levees (Recommendation 1):** Levee maintenance, rehabilitation, and upgrading should be established as the first and highest priority use of the levee. No other use whether for habitat, trails, recreational facilities, or roads should be allowed to unreasonably adversely impact levee integrity or maintenance.

- **Levees (Recommendation 4):** Where efficiencies of scale would result in cost savings and levee systems of two or more reclamation districts provide protection to the same area, the State and other regulatory agencies should consider approval of requests made by reclamation districts for such consolidation.
- **Levees (Recommendation 5):** If funding is made available to the reclamation districts for levee maintenance, mitigation for removal of vegetation required to maintain existing levees should be coordinated through a memorandum of understanding between reclamation districts, State, and federal agencies, which results in minimal fiscal impacts to reclamation districts and which will result in “no net long term loss” of habitat in the legal Delta.
- **Levees (Recommendation 6):** A “clearinghouse” for material suitable for levee maintenance should be created to assist in distributing appropriate materials to sites slated for maintenance work. Materials which have value for levee maintenance work, such as materials routinely dredged from Delta channels or materials otherwise excavated from within the Delta area, should be reserved first for levee maintenance work. Other uses should be considered only if the material is not needed or is unsuitable for levee maintenance work. Regulations should establish priorities for in-Delta use of soil excavated from within the Delta.
- **Levees (Recommendation 7):** Study appropriateness of materials from other sources for levee maintenance and repair, similar to the Long Term Management Strategy prepared for the San Francisco Bay region.
- **Levees (Recommendation 8):** To lower levee maintenance costs, streamlined permitting systems for authorization of dredging for levee maintenance and rehabilitation work, including the improvement of wildlife habitat and habitat mitigation sites, and for levee upgrading to mandated stands to protect public health and safety, should be instituted, with one State agency designated as lead agency and one federal agency designated as lead agency. Federal agency concurrence in such designations should be obtained.
- **Levees (Recommendation 9):** The program for emergency levee repair should be strengthened. The program should include: definition of an emergency; designation of emergency funds; emergency contracting procedures; emergency permitting procedures and the designation of a State agency to provide immediate response to floodfight, close levee breaks, and dewater flooded areas where local agencies are unable to respond. An emergency program should develop a funding program to assist reclamation districts that are unable to pay such costs.
- **Levees (Recommendation 13):** As much as feasible, levees should be designed and maintained to protect against damage from seismic activity. Those stands should not promote increased intensity or density of use beyond those designated as of January 1, 1992.
- **Levees (Recommendation 14):** Support on-going U.S. Army Corps of Engineers studies and programs that could provide funding, flood protection, and environmental restoration on Delta islands, and support further involvement to improve regulatory streamlining and study beneficial reuse of dredged material.

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7. Update for 2007 on hazards, vulnerabilities, and risks in California:

a) Hazards, vulnerabilities, and risks identified since 2004_____ **n/a** _____

b) Hazards, vulnerabilities, and risks insufficiently addressed in the 2004 FEMA Approved State Hazard Mitigation Plan_____ **n/a** _____

8. Update for 2007 on mitigation strategies:

a) Mitigation strategies undertaken since 2004, not reflected in 2004 State Hazard Mitigation Plan_____ **n/a** _____

b) Mitigation strategies insufficiently addressed in the 2004 FEMA approved State Hazard Mitigation Plan_____ **n/a** _____

9. Update for 2007 on mitigation actions

a) Mitigation action since 2004, not reflected in 2004 State Hazard Mitigation Plan

_____ **n/a** _____

b) Mitigation action insufficiently addressed in the 2004 FEMA approved State

Hazard Mitigation Plan_____ **n/a** _____
